

Theodore Magder With His Granddaughter Ilana Magder



That's a picture of me and my granddaughter Ilana Magder. This photo was taken in Israel in 1991. In the early 1970s my son, Victor Magder, decided to move to Israel. At first, my wife, Asia Magder (nee Shnirelman) and I were against his decision, but then we understood we couldn't force him to stay and signed a permission for him to depart. As soon as I had signed this permission, the party committee summoned me, and then there was a meeting. The issue on the agenda was my expulsion from the Party, but they decided that a strict reprimand for failure in the upbringing of my son was sufficient. I understood that, according to the rules and morals of the time, all relatives of those who had moved to Israel were subject to ostracism. By the way, the authorities were loyal to me: they didn't fire me, but just asked where I wanted to work. Therefore, having worked for the TASU (Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union) for 29 years I quit my job there. My wife, who was head of the editor's office of a magazine, was also fired from this position due to our son's departure. I only saw my son 18 years after his departure, in 1991. He is doing very well in Israel. He works for a big company. His daughter Ada got married and has two children, a son named Odet and a daughter named Sarrah - my great-grandchildren. In 1982 my son's second daughter Ilana was born. She recently returned from her service in the army. So, in the long run my son took the right decision to move to Israel.